(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the ISRO plans to put a human presence in space by 2012/2015; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, ISRO is conducting preliminary studies to understand the technology challenges involved in undertaking manned mission to space. These studies include design of suitable space capsule to carry astronauts, life support systems, thermal management, issues related with re-entry and training facilities for the astronauts. However, at present there is no proposal seeking approval to send humans to space.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Lunar mission

1796. SHRI SHARAD YADAV:

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are working on a lunar mission; and

(b) if so, by when a space ship is likely to visit moon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. India has planned an unmanned scientific mission to moon called Chandrayann-1.

(b) Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft is scheduled for launch by India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle during 2007-08.

Achievement in targets

†1797. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the first five months of current financial year, country is lagging behind with regard to coal, steel and construction of roads, and handling of good in major ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.